

Cooperative program may open medical field to deaf professionals

Deaf and hard of hearing people interested in the field of medicine and health care will have an opportunity to explore the possibilities for employment in health-related fields when a cooperative program between Gallaudet and University Health Services/Chicago Medical School (UHS/CMS) begins this summer.

The idea for a program involving deaf students began when Dr. Myron Winich of UHS/CMS saw President I. King Jordan on the television program "60 Minutes" in March 1990. Intrigued with the idea that deaf students could become physicians, Winich, who is associate dean for curriculum/educational research and development for the health science complex, contacted Dr. Jordan to discuss the possibility of working out a program that could allow interested and qualified Gallaudet graduates to enter medical school.

In November 1990, Dr. Jane Dillehay, associate professor of biology, and Anne Nissen, director of Experiential Programs off Campus (EPOC), visited the CMS and met with the faculty and deans to discuss the possibilities for a cooperative program.

The meeting produced plans for both immediate and future programs. A recent Gallaudet graduate, Eva Holloway, received a \$1,000 stipend from CMS for a six-week research internship that began May 28. She is interning in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology.

Next summer, the UHS/CMS plans to institute a two-week summer orientation program in allied health/physical therapy to acquaint five or six interested Gallaudet students with career choices in health-related fields and to orient them to the culture, requirements, and demands of a medical school environ-

ment. The program, which will be a credited course, also will help medical schools determine the accommodation needs for deaf students in medical and allied health education settings.

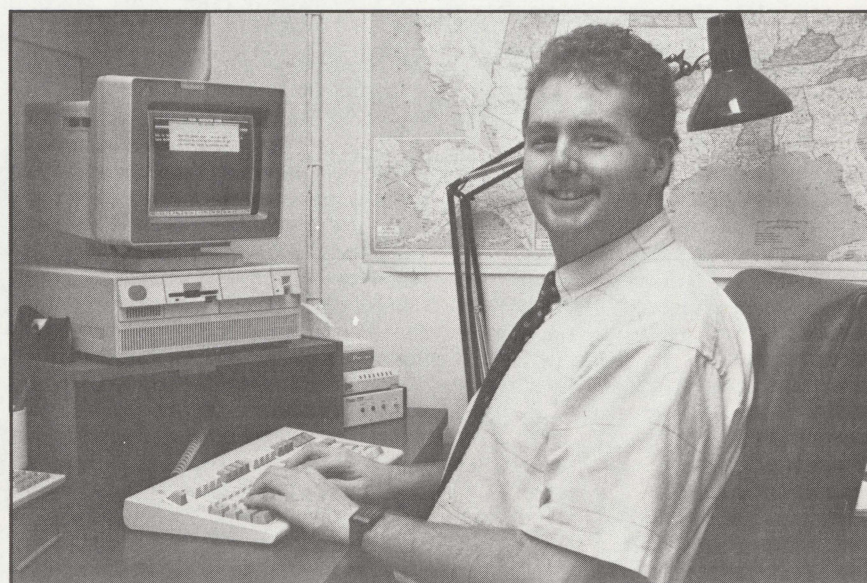
UHS currently offers a one-year master's degree in applied physiology to improve the chances for admittance into medical school for students who are not yet ready or qualified for admittance. Two or three courses can be applied toward medical school requirements.

Currently there are only 17 deaf physicians in the entire country. An American Medical Association survey in 1988-89 revealed that deaf and hard of hearing students make up 10.2 percent of the total number of students with disabilities, who represent only .02 percent of the overall number of students in medical school.

To become a deaf physician, said Dillehay, students need to have excellent skills in English, a strong background in science and math (although a science degree is not mandatory), and a well-balanced background in the humanities and social sciences.

Dillehay said the first step toward medical school is to pass the Medical College Achievement Test (MCAT) on general medical knowledge. The next step is to send out applications. A 3.0 grade point average is a minimum, with most students averaging a 3.5. It is highly recommended that students take consortium courses to demonstrate their ability to perform well in a "hearing" academic environment. If students are called by a medical school for an interview, they must demonstrate good communication skills in both written and face-to-face situations.

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Norman Williams, a 1991 alumnus, won a nationwide contest for his FUTURA-TDD software package, hailed as a breakthrough in communication for deaf people.

Communication technology developed

A software package that makes TDDs accessible to computers—a breakthrough that could markedly improve communication for deaf people—has been developed by a 1991 Gallaudet graduate.

Norman Williams, who graduated last month with a bachelor's degree in computer science and works as an applications programmer with the University's Technology Assessment Program (TAP), was one of five students nationwide to win the 1991 Easter Seal Student Design Competition for his low-cost, easy-to-use "FUTURA-TDD" software. The software works with any of three external modems—produced by Krown, Ultratec, and Phone TTY—that "translate" between Baudot (the TDD code) and ASCII (the computer code).

"More hearing people are using computers and faxes to type their conversations, just like deaf people do," said Williams. This means more—and cheaper—choices of

communication for deaf people to converse with each other and with hearing people as well, he said.

Williams bought his first computer at the age of 15 and began writing software a short time later. He began experimenting with TDD programs in 1981 and developed the first one for Apple users in 1985. He began developing FUTURA-TDD—an improved version—for use with IBM and IBM-compatible computers, in 1989.

Although TDDs have improved communication for deaf people, they have their limitations, said Williams.

Most TDDs use a Baudot code, not the ASCII code of computers, which means the two cannot interact. He compared the principle to the incompatibility of Beta and VHS videotape players—they just don't speak the same language.

For the FUTURA-TDD to interact with a computer, said Williams, a spe-

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Among Ourselves

Dr. Deborah Sonnenstrahl, Art Department chairwoman, gave a presentation on Gallaudet and its programs at the Georgia Chapter of the Gallaudet University Alumni Association in Cave Spring, Ga., this spring. She also spoke to approximately 100 teachers and students on the importance of education at the Georgia School for the Deaf. Upon her return to Washington, she participated in a panel discussion on art accessibility

Announcements

The advisory council for the Gallaudet Child Development Center (CDC) is conducting a survey to assess child care needs for campus personnel. In order to determine the extent to which the CDC is meeting these needs, everyone (even those without children) should answer the questionnaire, which addresses policy issues related to GCDC. The completed forms are due no later than June 30.

Members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority at Gallaudet University are asked to contact Carolyn Williamson, x5375, or Eloise Molock, x5256, or E-mail EJMOLOCK for important sorority news.

Signed tours of the U.S. Treasury building are available for deaf visitors on the following Saturdays at 10:20 a.m.: July 13, Aug. 24, Sept. 21, and Oct. 5. To make reservations, call (202) 535-3652 (TDD).

The final competition in the National Oratorical Contest for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Teenagers, sponsored by Gallaudet and the Bicentennial Commission on the U.S. Constitution, will be held June 20-21 at 3 p.m. in the Mansfield Room of the U.S. Senate. For people who need transportation, a van will leave Gallaudet at 2:30 p.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call Cathy Carroll, x5340.

programs at the National Association of Artists Organizations' annual conference.

A number of people from the Gallaudet community were among the nearly 7,000 people who attended the 44th Annual Meeting of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities in Dallas, Texas, in May. Gallaudet President I. King Jordan gave the keynote address. Dr. Jordan was presented with one of the organization's Presidential Awards.

Twelve Gallaudet undergraduates who participated in the spring TDD-athon set a record by raising \$19,720 in pledges—more than double the amount raised last spring. The Development Office reported that the total included many first-time pledges, which brought the University closer to its goal of having 30 percent of its alumni participate in its 1991 Annual Fund campaign. Only 21 percent of the University's alumni made a contribution last year.

Alex Quaynor, an instructor in the English Language Institute at Northwest Campus, presented a workshop on adult literacy at Brown University in Providence, R.I., last semester.

David Schleper, a reading-writing specialist in MSSD's English Department, talked with parents of toddlers in the KDES Parent-Infant Program May 22 about early literacy development in children and strategies that parents can use at home to encourage reading and writing for their children.

For the fifth consecutive year, "Deaf Mosaic," a production of Gallaudet's Department of TV, Film, and Photography, won an Emmy Award at the Washington Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' awards ceremony, held June 8. Producer and co-host Mary Lou Novitsky accepted the Emmy in the individual craft category of Host/Reporter. This is Novitsky's third Emmy.

Bridgetta Bourne-Firl of the National Academy's Professional and Community Training Program, presented a training program at the New Hampshire Association of the Deaf convention May 18-19.

Co-op plan starts

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Both Dillehay and Dr. Judith Pachciarz, a deaf physician, strongly recommend using an interpreter for the interview. After finishing medical school, students must complete a residency.

"Perhaps the most important requirement for a deaf student wanting to enter the medical health field is motivation," says Dillehay. She cites Pachciarz, a resident in the Department of Pathology in a veterans' hospital in Los Angeles, Calif., who applied to 50 different medical schools over a period of 17 years. She is the only deaf person in the country to hold both Ph.D. and M.D. degrees.



Students in MSSD's English Department enjoy a faculty sponsored pizza party June 7 that they earned by reading a collective total of 5,000 books during the academic year. The theme of the party was "Let's prove that deaf teens can and do read."

Williams' new software opens more avenues for communication

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cial modem is needed to convert the computer code to Baudot. There are presently three kinds of external modems on the market that do this translation.

The user can select a telephone number from the FUTURA-TDD's on-screen directory, which then automatically dials the selection. Messages appear on the screen, such as "dialing," "ringing," or "waiting for connection," or the computer might tell the caller the line is busy. The screen also signals the caller's attention after being put on hold. After the user types a message and ends the conversation, the computer will ask if the user wants to print, save, or both print and save the conversation.

Williams said that if he is using a program such as WordPerfect when the telephone rings, he can immediately switch the computer to the phone, then change back to WordPerfect when his conversation is finished. If he leaves the office, FUTURA-TDD can function as an answering machine.

In his current project at TAP, Williams is working with TDD manufacturers to develop ASCII standards. He hopes to develop a way that all TDDs can be equipped with ASCII. This will provide automatic connections to a computer, reduce the need to use a relay system, provide privacy in the conversation, and permit callers to interrupt each other as one would in a voice conversation.

Classified Ads

CLASSIFIED ADS are printed free as a service to Gallaudet faculty and staff. They must be submitted in writing only to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37, or E-mail LMMCCONNELL. Off-campus phone numbers must include an area code and whether the number is voice or TDD. Ads may be run for a maximum of two weeks, if requested and if space permits. Ads received June 17-21 will be published July 1.

NEEDED: House in Maryland for family w/one child, late July-Aug. Call Sy, x5373.

FOR SALE: G.E. side-by-side ref./freezer, 18 mo. old, exc. cond., \$600; full-size mattress; free kittens. Call x5820 or x5409 (both V/TDD), or E-mail KLOGLEBAY.

FOR SALE: 8-mo.-old black male cocker spaniel, friendly and playful, paper trained, all shots, son allergic, \$150/BO. Call Joyce, x5299 or E-mail JHMCIPHERSON.

FOR SALE: DP exercise equipment for back of body, \$125; bunk beds w/o mattresses, \$50; 2 car seats for up to 40 lbs., \$20 each. Call x6293 (V) or x6295 (TDD).

WANTED: Roommate for 2-BR townhouse, Bowie, Md., nonsmoker, must like ferret, \$275/mo. inc. util. Call (301) 227-6258 (TDD).

WANTED: Responsible female to share townhouse across from PG. Community College, Md., avail. Aug. 1. Call Debbie, x5090, 4-9 p.m. M-F.

CHILDCARE: Loving, dependable care, large fenced yard, snacks provided, Riverdale, Md. Call Tonya, (301) 459-6647 (V) or x5383.

FOR SALE: Round oak table w/extension leaves, 4 chairs, corner cabinet, \$750; locking roll-top desk w/matching adj. swivel

chair, \$750; white iron brass-trimmed trundle bed, \$100; Serta queen size mattress/box spring, \$80; white/brown wool rya rug, \$60; taupe velvet recliner, \$25; 2-drawer lateral file cabinet, \$30; oak/pecan color BR dresser, night table, \$50. Call Loraine, x5051 (V) or 5052 (TDD).

FOR SALE: '88 Chevy Celebrity, 4-dr., automatic, AC, 40K miles, exc. cond., \$5,000. Call x5540 or (301) 874-2734 (V/TDD), or E-mail DBGALVAN.

FOR SALE: Electric fan, \$15. Call John, x3113.

SHARE: 2-BR, 1-bath house, Takoma Park, Md., w/deaf female, females preferred, walk to Metro, reasonable rent, avail. Aug. 1. Call Will Verbits, x5375 or (202) 537-3050 (V/TDD).

FOR RENT: 2-BR apartment in semi-detached duplex, newly renovated, W/D, w/w carpet, AC, storage, parking, near bus and Green Line Metro, 1 mi. to Catholic U., avail. mid-June, \$600/mo. Call (202) 832-3978.

FOR RENT: Beach condo at bay side near Ocean City Sheraton, shopping, 500 steps to beach, sleeps 6, TV/decoder, TDD, microwave, swimming pool. Call Ron (301) 434-6409 (TDD), or E-mail RESUTCLIFFE.

NEEDED: Baby furniture in good cond.: cribs w/sheets and pads, play pens, booster or high-chairs; donate or loan to Family Learning Vacation, July 21-27. Please deliver to KDES Room 2324, or we can pick up July 19, return July 27. Call Steve or Bernadette, x3092.

FREE: Pekingese, 11-mo.-old male, shots, housebroken, loves kids; owner allergic. Call x5140 or E-mail BKSSELLER.



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